

## IS THIS PROFITEERING?

WHY BANANAS ARE LUXURIES  
MAY FIND AN EXPLANATION  
IN UNITED FRUIT CO. PROFITS

Earnings for 1919 Period \$40 on Each Share  
Stock, as Compared with \$6.19 in 1914, Be-  
fore Price-Jacking Became Popular.

With the cost of shoes and other necessities mounting higher and higher eighteen months after the armistice was declared, The Evening World to-day continues a survey of the increased profits of corporations engaged in the manufacturing and handling of clothing and food.

The attention of Attorney General Palmer especially is called to The Evening World's articles.

## United Fruit Company.

Probably the biggest factor in the fruit business of this country is the United Fruit Company. It has a grip on the tropical fruit trade that dwarfs all competitors. Its operations are on a truly tremendous scale. To illustrate, and taking only one branch of its business, it is the expectation of the company to handle 34,000,000 bunches of bananas in the current year, and of this amount approximately 27,000,000 bunches are expected to be consumed in this country.

Not only in the fruit trade is the company an all powerful factor but it is an important producer of sugar as well. In its Cuban sugar mills alone the company for the crop season of 1912 produced 252,646,000 pounds of sugar and more than 6,000,000 gallons of molasses. At Charlestown, Mass., it has a plant that has a capacity for turning out more than 3,500 barrels of refined sugar daily.

At the close of 1919 the company had over 118,000 acres of fruit land in cultivation; 82,000 acres of sugar cane land and approximately 50,000 acres of miscellaneous products. It owns its railways in tropical countries, aggregating 1,147 miles, and has a fleet of twenty-three ships, aggregating 103,000 tons.

Now, oftentimes during the last year or more bananas, because of high prices charged for them, might have quite properly been placed in the luxury class. Prices charged for sugar have been and still are too painful to be dwelt upon at length here.

These high prices find full reflection in the earnings of the United Fruit Company. They have expanded profits to such an extent that the company in fifteen months ended with the close of 1919 earned \$40 for each of the 508,185 shares of stock outstanding. Back in 1914, before jacking up prices became what seems to be an obsession on the part of producers of necessities, the company earned \$6.19 for each share of its capital stock.

The United Fruit Company does not give a statement of the volume of its gross business, but its 1919

annual report shows that income, after paying all expenses, depreciation, etc., showed a monthly average increase of more than 34 per cent. over 1918. And 1918 was the best previous year in the company's history.

Increased fruit and sugar prices find no justification in the 1919 report on account of increased cost of operation nor of higher taxes. The company's income, excess profit and other taxes are shown in its 1919 report to

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the washable, duplex-fabric glove... cut, stitched and shaped like he costliest leather

GLOVES  
FOR MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN

have been \$18,016,900, compared with \$9,896,000 in 1918 and \$3,696,000 in 1917, but after paying these greatly increased taxes the company had a surplus available for distribution to shareholders of \$28,163,000, an increase of nearly 56 per cent. over 1918. And compared with 1914 the balance available for dividends shows a jump of 780 per cent.

The company's growth in profits in the face of higher operating costs and heavy taxes may be quickly seen from the following. The figures for 1919 cover fifteen months ending with the close of that year:

	Net Income.	Earnings on Stock per Share.
1919	\$20,163,518	40.07
1918	14,094,047	28.01
1917	13,037,955	26.72
1916	11,943,151	27.97
1915	8,960,522	18.12
1914		6.19

Reflection of higher prices for fruit and sugar is also seen in the company's dividend policy. From 1914 to 1918, inclusive, 8 per cent. was paid annually on the \$50,316,500 stock. In 1919 the company added a 3 per cent. extra dividend to its regular dividend. Last month it was announced that the regular rate of dividends was jumped from 8 per cent. to 13 per cent.

Father of Four in Jail as a Forger.

Sylvester Day of No. 102 Baynor Street, Freeport, L. I., is in the Nassau County jail at Mineola, awaiting action of the Grand Jury on a charge of forgery. It is alleged he forged the name of Mrs. Irene Sperling on a number of checks against her account in the Bank of Rockville Centre. Day has a wife and four little children, who are reported to be destitute. The checks ranged from \$10 to \$50.

## BEACON GROWS SLOWLY.

Has 10,000 Population, Increase of 3.5 Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Census Bureau to-day announced the following 1920 population figures: Beacon, N. Y., 10,994, and Port Jervis, N. Y., 10,171.

The increases since 1910 show Beacon 87 persons or 3.5 per cent., and Port Jervis 607 or 6.3 per cent. Beacon was incorporated in 1915 from the villages of Fishkill Landing and Mattewau, whose combined populations in 1910 totaled 10,629.

## Theft of Load of China Charged.

Joseph Nylan, No. 39 Mangin Street, was taken to the Essex Market Court to-day for arraignment on a grand larceny charge. He is alleged to have stolen a load of china, which he had been ordered by his employer, William F. Burke, No. 58 Murray Street, to deliver at Pier 21, East River.

## South African Vote Split.

LONDON, March 18.—Advices from Cape Town, giving the latest available returns of the elections of March 16 for the South African House of Assembly,

say that the Unionists won 19 seats, the South African Party 34, the National-

ists 21, the Laborites 21 and the Independents 3.

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**Printed French Organdies**  
Old-fashioned Flowered French Organdies are among the many exclusive novelties just received. These ultra-fashionable fabrics are shown in a complete range of floral printings on white or tinted backgrounds.



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**TAILORED and "DRESSY" SUITS**  
**\$48.00**

Actual Selling Prices to \$65.00

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**EXTRAORDINARY**—is the only word that properly applies to these suits that even in the old days of low prices one could hardly find combining such styling, fabric and workmanship at \$48.

The ETON (with accordion, box-pleated or plain skirts)—The BOLERO JACKET—The NIPPED-IN WAISTLINE—The FINGER-TIP LENGTH COAT—The STRICTLY TAILORED

These fashions, superbly tailored to the least detail, lined with exquisite silks of plain or figured pattern, display smart pockets and smarter collars, are ornamented with silk braid, embroidery or good-looking buttons, and often a natty string belt.

These suits are twin duplicates of very much higher cost models.

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**PHILIP MORRIS & CO. LTD.**  
begs to introduce its newest  
**CIGARETTE**  
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A mild domestic blend  
20 for 30

Adjusted  
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**\$7**

In our two-day sale TO-DAY and TO-MORROW \$7 will buy this handsome jeweled watch that should give you good service as a timepiece for years. It is a 12-size watch with good jeweled and adjusted movement in a gold filled case and we believe it will meet with your fullest expectations. We'll say it is exceptional value at the price. The watch has been timed, regulated and adjusted ready for your pocket. You can buy this watch with the distinct understanding that if any jeweler offers you one as good for \$10 or if FOR ANY REASON you are dissatisfied with your purchase, bring it back WITHIN TEN DAYS and your \$7 will be promptly refunded. Besides this \$7 watch, we have several interesting specialties for those who want solid gold watches. Small orders filled with promptness and accuracy.

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Fast steamers bring the Tropiko fruit direct to New York. In a few hours it is in the dealer's hands, ready for your selection. There are four size-grades of Tropiko Grapefruit—Blue Ray, Red Ray, Purple Ray and Bronze Ray. Pick out the one that best fits your needs and pocket-book and then always order Tropiko of that Ray. It is always uniform, always dependable. You will never be disappointed.

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